

Jimmy Carter Library & Museum News Release

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President Jimmy Carter & Pianist Roger Williams to Celebrate 80th Birthdays

Legendary Pianist Will Perform Piano Marathon at Carter Library

Atlanta, GA. - On October 1, 2004, renowned pianist Roger Williams will break his personal piano performance marathon record, entertaining visitors for 13 1/2 hours at the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum. The event will commemorate the 80th birthday of both President Carter and Mr. Williams.

"I am delighted that Roger has chosen to celebrate our birthday this way," said President Carter. "It will be a great opportunity for me and for people from across the country to hear some of America's favorite melodies performed by one of our nation's best loved musical artists."

Roger Williams is the greatest selling pianist in history, with 118 albums to his credit, 18 of them gold or platinum. His 1955 version of "Autumn Leaves" is the only piano instrumental to reach #1 on the Billboard singles chart and remains the best selling piano recording of all time. Having played for eight chief executives, he has earned the title "Pianist to the Presidents."

"While I have had the honor of performing for eight of our country's presidents, I never had the opportunity to play for President Carter when he was in the White House," says Williams. "It will be a special privilege to be able to celebrate our mutual milestone birthdays and to perform for him at the Carter Library."

Former President Jimmy Carter and pianist Roger Williams both were born October 1, 1924. The former president was born in Plains, Georgia, and Mr. Williams was born in Omaha, Nebraska. Both served in the United States Navy, and each rose to the top of his chosen profession.

Williams' piano performance marathon will take place October 1, 2004, in the lobby of the Carter Presidential Library and Museum in Atlanta from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. Admission to the concert is free.

Editors Note: Photos of Williams are attached.